Termination of Contract

277. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has terminated its contract with a Russian firm for carrying out seismic survey for possible oil reserves in West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and its repercussions ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) According to ONGC, both sides have agreed to discontinue the seismic survey.

Southern Gas Grid

278. SHRI N. E. BALARAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that laying of gas pipeline from Bombay to Cochin in the proposed Southern Gas Grid has been rejected by Government ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ; and

(c) at what stage the projects is pending ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) The Report of Inter-Ministerial Group set up to examine the techno-economic feasibility of laying a pipeline from Western Offshore to Southern States is under consideration.

Oil and Gas in Tamil Nadu

279. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the names of places in Tamil Nadu where oil and gas are available and what is the quantity thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : In Tamil Nadu, oil and/or gas have been struck in the Kovil Kalappal, Narimanam, Tirukalar Nannilyam, Adiyakkamangalam, Karaikal, Bhuvanagiri, Tiruvarur and Kamalapuram structures. The inplace geological reserves of these finds as on 1-1-1991 amount to 35.57 MMT of oil oil equivalent of gas. While Narimanam, Adiyakkamangalm and Kamalapuram are already under production, the others are in different stages of reassessment/evaluation/delineation.

Oil Wells of Bombay High

280. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the O.N.G.C. has over exploited the oil wells of Bombay High despite the caution to the contrary sounded by ICRS ; and

(b) what are the reasons for dis-regarding the opinion of ICRS ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) According to ONGS, no Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Licences for LPG Agencies

281. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licences for LPG Agencies and retail outlets issued by Government (Statewise) during each of the last three years i.e. in 1989, 1990 and 1991 ;

(b) the number of those being run by persons other than those whom these agencies have been allotted and what action Government have taken in such cases ;

(c) the number of licences for LPG Agencies and retail outlets in each State which are proposed to be issued during the year 1992 ;